

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert,

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 defense appropriations bill, we write to respectfully request that the bill include full funding for the Public Schools on Military Installations Program, which is provided through the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. This important program provides grants to construct, renovate, repair, or expand elementary and secondary public schools located on military installations. Grantees are required to find a state and local match for not less than 20% of the total project cost. In the last fiscal year, this program received \$270 million in funding.

Military readiness suffers when our service members have to worry about their children's quality of education. The Public Schools on Military Installations Program was created in 2011; in the last ten years, the program has successfully assisted many states in renovating and repairing schools on military bases. The 2018 updated DoD-approved "Public Schools on Military Installations Priority List (Priority List)" identified public schools on military installations that had serious capacity and/or facility condition deficiencies. DoD has used this Priority List to offer grant application opportunities to the Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) representing the schools on the list. After an LEA submits its proposal, a multi-disciplined Federal evaluation team reviews the requests and conducts a site visit prior to awarding the grants.

To date, DoD has successfully addressed many of the schools on this list. It is imperative that we continue to rebuild, renovate and construct new buildings for public schools on military bases to ensure military readiness and provide a quality educational environment for our military children. We appreciate your consideration of our request to fully fund our public schools on military installations, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to support our troops and promote their readiness and well-being.

Sincerely,



Kaiali'i Kahele  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress